

Book of Mormon: Broken Heart & Contrite Spirit

IMO one of the plain and precious truths that the BOM gives us in clarity is the **essential** need of having a broken heart and contrite spirit in order to be saved. Here are a few obscured references from the Bible:

Psalms 34:18 KJV

The LORD is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart; and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit.

Psalms 51:17 KJV

The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise.

Isaiah 61:1 KJV

*The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me; because the LORD hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to **bind up the brokenhearted**, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound*

Luke 4:18 KJV

*The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, **because** he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to **heal the brokenhearted**, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised*

Now, here are **clear** statements of fact coming from the BOM:

2 Nephi 2:7 LDS-EN-BOM

*Behold, he offereth himself a sacrifice for sin, to answer the ends of the law, **unto all those who have a broken heart and a contrite spirit; and unto none else can the ends of the law be answered.***

2 Nephi 4:32 LDS-EN-BOM

*May the gates of hell be shut continually before me, **because that my heart is broken and my spirit is contrite!** O Lord, wilt thou not shut the gates of thy righteousness before me, that I may walk in the path of the low valley, that I may be strict in the plain road!*

3 Nephi 9:20 LDS-EN-BOM

*And **ye shall offer for a sacrifice unto me a broken heart and a contrite spirit.** And **whoso cometh unto me with a broken heart and a contrite spirit, him will I baptize with fire and with the Holy Ghost,** even as the Lamanites, because of their faith in me at the time of their conversion, were baptized with fire and with the Holy Ghost, and they*

knew it not.

Mormon 2:14 LDS-EN-BOM

*And **they did not come unto Jesus with broken hearts and contrite spirits**, but they did curse God, and wish to die. Nevertheless they would struggle with the sword for their lives.*

Ether 4:15 LDS-EN-BOM

*Behold, when ye shall rend that veil of unbelief which doth cause you to remain in your awful state of wickedness, and hardness of heart, and blindness of mind, then shall the great and marvelous things which have been hid up from the foundation of the world from you-yea, when ye shall **call upon the Father in my name, with a broken heart and a contrite spirit**, then shall ye know that the Father hath remembered the covenant which he made unto your fathers, O house of Israel.*

Moroni 6:2 LDS-EN-BOM

*Neither did they receive any unto baptism save they came forth with a broken heart and a **contrite spirit**, and witnessed unto the church that they truly repented of all their sins.*

IMO it is a great snare that the devil has concocted to get people to contend about points of doctrine; e.g. grace versus works, etc. etc. This has been going on for 2,000 years. Instead of contending about opinion or what we THINK we know, we (myself included) should daily take up our crosses and plead with God, Jesus Christ, to help us repent. If we think we have it all figured out, we don't know anything.

Another scripture of MANY in the BOM that I believe covers the subject:

Moroni 10:21 LDS-EN-BOM

*And **except ye have charity ye can in nowise be saved** in the kingdom of God; neither can ye be saved in the kingdom of God if ye have not faith; neither can ye if ye have no hope.*

I close with a scripture from the Bible:

1 Corinthians 8:1 KJV

*... we know that **we all have knowledge**. **Knowledge puffeth up, but charity edifieth**.*